

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**1-17. (Canceled)**

**18. (Currently Amended)** A method for the treatment and care of primary and secondary tumors by inhibiting angiogenesis which comprises applying at the tumor site a biomaterial comprised of a benzyl ester of hyaluronic acid wherein said hyaluronic acid is at least 85% benzyl esterified, ~~and~~ wherein said biomaterial inhibits angiogenic processes related to vascularization and wherein said biomaterial is in the form of at least one member selected from the group consisting of a non-woven felt, sponge, microsphere, film and membrane.

**19. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 18, wherein said hyaluronic acid is at least 90% benzyl esterified.

**20. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 18, wherein said hyaluronic acid is at least 95% benzyl esterified.

**21. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 18, wherein said hyaluronic acid is 100% benzyl esterified.

**22. (Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 18 wherein said hyaluronic acid is in association with other natural, synthetic and/or semisynthetic biopolymers.

**23. (Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 22, wherein the natural biopolymer is selected from the group consisting of collagen, cellulose, polysaccharides, chitin, chitosan, pectins, agar, gellan and alginic acid.

**24. (Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 22, wherein the synthetic biopolymer is selected from the group consisting of polylactic acid (PLA), polyglycolic acid (PGA), polyurethanes and polysulphonic resins.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 22, wherein the semisynthetic biopolymer is selected from the group consisting of collagen cross-linked with aldehydes, diamine and gellan.

26. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 18 wherein the biomaterial further comprises with at least one pharmacologically active substance.

27. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 26, wherein the pharmacologically active substance is selected from the group consisting of fluorouracil, methotrexate, cis-platinum, carboplatin, oxaliplatin, ethopoxide, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, and doxorubicin.

28. **(Cancelled)**

29. **(Canceled)**

30. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 18, wherein said biomaterial is applied to the tumor site by filling a cavity resulting from the surgical removal of a tumor.

31. **(New)** A method for the treatment and care of primary and secondary tumors by inhibiting angiogenesis which comprises applying at the tumor site a biomaterial consisting essentially of a benzyl ester of hyaluronic acid wherein said hyaluronic acid is at least 85% benzyl esterified, wherein said biomaterial inhibits angiogenic processes related to vascularization and wherein said biomaterial is in the form of at least one member selected from the group consisting of a non-woven felt, sponge, microsphere, film and membrane.

32. **(New)** The method of claim 31, wherein said hyaluronic acid is at least 90% benzyl esterified.

33. **(New)** The method of claim 31, wherein said hyaluronic acid is at least 95% benzyl esterified.

34. **(New)** The method of claim 31, wherein said hyaluronic acid is 100% benzyl esterified.
35. **(New)** The method according to claim 31, wherein said biomaterial is applied to the tumor site by filling a cavity resulting from the surgical removal of a tumor.